NOV 0 3 2003

Docket No. 55729 (71526)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT:

I. Hirao et al.

EXAMINER: M. C. Henry

SERIAL NO.

09/787,196

GROUP:

1623

FILED:

April 26, 2001

FOR:

Novel Nucleic Acid Base Pair

Mail Stop: Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Applicants are in receipt of the Office Action dated October 3, 2003 and request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following amendments and remarks. Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.